## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internation pplication No PCT/FR 03/02873

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12Q1/04 C12Q1/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, EMBASE, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMI	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Υ	WO 89 04372 A (BERG JAMES D) 18 May 1989 (1989-05-18) page 6, line 5 -page 7, line 12; claim 2	1–20
Y	WO 95 31481 A (UNIV MONTANA RES DEV INST; PYLE BARRY H (US); MCFETERS GORDON A (U) 23 November 1995 (1995-11-23) page 37, line 32 -page 40, line 24	1-17,20
Y	EP 0 877 092 A (BECTON DICKINSON CO) 11 November 1998 (1998-11-11) page 5, line 37 -page 6, line 1; example 2	2,3, 18-20
Υ	WO 99 02650 A (STEPHENS PETER JEREMY; OXOID LTD (GB); HOLBROOK ROY (GB)) 21 January 1999 (1999-01-21) p.4, paragraphe 4 à la page 6, paragraphe 4	2,3, 18-20

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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents:  "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date  "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone  "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.  "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search  20 February 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report  04/03/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Jacques, P

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A	EDBERG S C ET AL: "RAPID SPOT TEST FOR THE DETERMINATION OF ESCULIN HYDROLYSIS" JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, vol. 4, no. 2, 1976, pages 180-184, XP009026425 ISSN: 0095-1137 the whole document		12	
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